

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

JANUARY 28, 2014

HEARING IMPAIRED PROGRAMMING SUBTITLE SYNCHRONIZATION

According to U.S. Census data, nearly 10% of the population is hearing-impaired. For many people with this condition, electronic devices can be helpful when adjusted to hear voices and noises in direct conversations. However, these devices are not always able to adequately process electronic sources, including TV voice broadcasts. As a result, users often rely on subtitles. However, nearly half of all TV broadcast subtitles are not sufficiently synchronized with the video – resulting in a very fragmented viewing experience. Broadcast providers must be encouraged to address this problem and improve voice/written synchronization for the benefit of the hearing-impaired in our county communities.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors send a five signature letter to the Federal Communications Commission, urging them to work with broadcasters to improve voice and subtitle synchronization on programming for the hearing-impaired.

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MDA:flh

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MOTION

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